



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Human Rights Commission Minutes 08/21/2002

Human Rights Commission

Attendance

Cecilia Akuffo
 Sheri Baron
 Christine Carney
 Christine Deshler
 Chris Kita
 A. Nick Minton
 Bill Shea
 Nancy Sweeny
 Jim Webster

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Marlissa Briggert
 Kevin McGann
 Susan McHugh

Start of meeting: 8:00 p.m.

New Business

Decision Re: 2003 summer AHRC meeting schedule

- Question: Whether Committee should skip one meeting next summer because of vacations, etc.
- Decision: In July of next year Committee can decide whether to take August off, based on where everyone's at in July

Committee News

- Esther is resigning, and sent an email informing Committee of this
- Chris Kita will not seek re-appointment when his term is up in November
- Christine Carney will put up a flyer on Town Day announcing the vacancy

Other

- MCAD – complaints now need to be filed within 300 days rather than the former 6 months

Events

September 11th memorial

- Memorial to be held by Town Hall. Volunteers needed to hand out candles. The widow of the Arlington man who died on 9/11 may attend. Scheduled to be present at the memorial are:

Kathleen Dias
 Phil Farrington
 Police Fire Honor Guard.
 Bagpipes (possibly)

Town Day

- Marlissa sent 26 letters to local restaurants. Jimmy's Mr. Sushi, and Tea Tray in the Sky responded
- To share the work everyone will call 2 restaurants; if it's close to the event, members should pick up certificates in person
- Marlissa will put up a flyer welcoming volunteers to help with the 10th anniversary celebration and any of the Committee's other events

Dialog

- On October 9th at 7:30, Diane Levin is scheduled for the next Dialog at the Robbins Library. Marlissa will create flyers re: the event for Town Day; flyers will be sent to the elementary schools

Committees

- Publicity & Rapid Response: Nothing to report
- Policies & Procedures: Nothing to report
- 10th Anniversary Committee
 - Will meet in early October after everyone has returned from vacations. The plan is to:
 - Talk about where Arlington has been
 - Talk about where Arlington is presently
 - Work with groups we've worked with already
- Samantha Power, author of The Quiet Americans, in which she talks about reactions to genocide after the holocaust, is scheduled to speak at the Kennedy School. She is a possible good fit for the 10th anniversary celebration
- The Committee may be considering an *Arlington Human Rights Award*. This could be tied in with a United Way award. We would need a grant writer (possibly Judy Bond).
- The UW "*Unity Fund*" award relates to community-based educational programs that promote tolerance and understanding. The Boston Foundation also has an award that may be an option.

End of meeting: 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by Cecilia Akuffo